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January 22, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

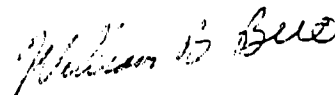
Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I would like to urge you to lend your support to the settlement reached in the Microsoft case. This settlement is more than fair and will certainly restore fair competition in the computer industry.

Microsoft has been an innovator and an asset to the economy. This lawsuit has dragged on for too long already, and at this point it is just a punishment for a business for being successful. America's computer is the world's gold standard, and Microsoft is mainly responsible for this. While the settlement actually limits Microsoft's own competitiveness, it will certainly address the issues alleged in the lawsuit. Microsoft will allow computer makers to pre-install programs such as Netscape or AOL IM within Windows without retaliation. Microsoft is also giving its competitors access to their intellectual property that they worked so hard to develop. The proposed settlement is a just solution to an unjust lawsuit.

Our country's economy needs Microsoft more now than it has in recent years. Let's get this case behind us and get back to work. Please accept the settlement.

Sincerely,



William Bero

CC: Representative Marty Meehan